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Barley is complained of in several districts for being thin, particularly on the light gravelly soils, in some other quarters it is considered a good crop.

A greater quantity of hay has been lost by the floods this season, than for many years back; very little of the late crops, even on dry grounds, have been got up in good order.

Great as the necessity was for saving of flaxseed, we are apprehensive it will not be accomplished so effectually and extensively as was expected. Few seasons have proved more unfavourable for the purpose than the present one; the almost continual rains have baffled the exertions of the most active and skilful farmers, and obliged them in many cases to relinquish the common mode of drying it in stooks, and to spread it on the ground to prevent the flax from rotting, although a good deal of the seed was lost by that means.

Many of those who rippled off the bolls, and had not good floors for drying them on, have either lost the seed altogether, or had it so damaged as to be very unfit for sowing.

It is thus that the natural humidity of our climate will frequently throw obstructions in the way of our attempting to render ourselves less dependent on other countries, but these difficulties ought not to discourage the farmer, from persevering in the attempt. It is most certainly an object of great national importance, and if entered into extensively and with spirit, we shall be able to raise so great a redundancy in favourable seasons as will secure us from feeling the disappointment of an adverse one.

It is an easy and pleasant task to put forward all the different branches of agriculture, in a fine dry season; but it requires much skill, patience, and perseverance to carry them on in a season like the present.

Nothing can be more mortifying to the farmer, than when he has collected all his reapers, and promised himself the satisfaction of accomplishing a great day's work, to be beat off by a heavy rain, and obliged to send them home, wet perhaps to the skin, after a few hours work; and it is no less mortifying, to find when the rain is over and a dry day succeeds, that his stooks, which he had set up dry, were tossed by the wind, and so drenched with wet, as to require the sheaves to be opened; this often happens when the greatest care has been taken, but it is more frequently occasioned by the imperfect and slovenly manner in which the stooks are constructed. The writer of this report has for a series of years paid particular attention to this part of the work, and has experienced the best effects from it: the men employed to put up the stooks ought to be careful to set the standard sheaves so as to have a gentle lean or inclination to the centre, that one end of the stook may not overbalance the other. They should then put the cut end of the hood sheaves to their breasts, and with both hands pull up the band or strap as near the head as it will bear; and having opened it completely up to the strap, the two heads ought to be put on at once, and made to meet each other over the corn ends of the standards.—By this means the corn will be completely covered, and the heads of the hood sheaves being short and low, the wind will make a smaller impression on them and be less likely to blow them off, than if they were high.

The crops of turnips in many places, have been much hurt by the wet, especially on heavy or retentive soils; in flat lands, a similar injury has been done to the potatoes, but we hope the crops will be good in general.

Oat-meal has experienced within the last week a considerable advance in price, but as the markets will probably be soon supplied with abundance of new meal, it may be expected to lower again.

The following is an extract of a letter from a gentleman in the neighbourhood of Liverpool, dated September 4, 1809.

"We have fair crops of wheat, a little mildewed in some places, but by no means general; and that I think not to injure the quality of the grain. Oats are an uncommonly fine crop, and of excellent quality. Barley upon good land, full, and fine. Beans good, peas partially so. Potatoes very great crops; and clover and grass very full as after math."

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

In addition to the innumerable military blunders of the present day, we have another instance of imbecility in the state of the commercial negociation with the

United States of North America. As might have been expected, when the non-ratification of the agreement made by the British ambassador, was known to the American executive, the President has withdrawn his former suspension of the non-intercourse act, and we are again left in a state of commercial hostility with that country, and to a renewal of all the inconveniences, which we lately suffered by the interruption of our intercourse with them. This failure in the negociation, at the present juncture, is the more to be regretted, as the Americans, disgusted with the conduct of France, were inclined to draw closer the bonds of friendship with Great Britain, but there is now reason to fear, that the conduct of our cabinet will give a decided preponderance to the interests of France, in the councils of the American government, and that through this system of blundering, the favourable period for reconciliation has been lost, and a closer alliance formed between America and France. American produce has considerably advanced, and the lottery of speculation has again commenced. From the large quantity now on hand, coupled with the stagnation of trade, a very high advance will probably not be permanent.

The sanguine hopes, and the speculations founded on them, that British and Irish manufactures, would find their way to the Continent, through the island of Walcheren, are now likely to end in disappointment. Its possession, either as a military or commercial depôt, is not likely to be of long continuance. Yet we understand large quantities of British manufactures are introduced into the Continent, from the island of Heligoland, and that Scotch muslin, through that channel, makes its way to Paris. In consequence, the cotton trade in Scotland is represented as being at this time very brisk.

It is probable that we may soon obtain some relief in the article of timber. In addition to the vessel from Norway, mentioned in our last report, to have arrived at Belfast, others have arrived at different ports, and more are shortly expected. It is said that the Danish government, conceding to the necessities of the Norwegians, who were greatly distressed by the want of provisions, have relaxed in the severity of their restrictions on trade, and permitted an intercourse under neutral colours, for the space of three months.

From the injury sustained by the harvest, by the wet weather, both in Great Britain and Ireland, and from the probability that no importations from America or the continent of Europe can be depended on, it is likely that the restriction on distillation from grain will be continued. It appears a necessary precaution, and is only holding an even balance between the growers and consumers of grain. A few interested speculating merchants may complain, but the price of grain during last year, fully justified the propriety of the restriction, and afforded sufficient profit to the farmer, and there is no ground to suppose that prices will be lower during the ensuing year.

We understand that some obstacles to the purchase of the Lagan canal, yet remain to be removed, and till their removal no plan will be likely to be matured for remedying the inconveniences of the present line, either by improvements on it, or by an entire new cut. As it stands at present, this canal is of very little use to the country.

We subjoin, for the information of our readers, an account of the completion of the Crinan canal, in Scotland, with the present rate of tolls, for vessels passing through it, so as to avoid the danger of going round the Mull of Cantyre, viz:

"Crinan Canal, in Argyleshire.—It is long since the dangers and difficulties attending the navigation round the peninsula, or Mull of Cantyre, suggested the importance of a canal within that peninsula, by which these perils might be avoided, and in 1792 a Subscription was opened for that purpose. The canal is now finished from Loch-Crinan to Loch-Gilp. The vessels which have already passed, have acknowledged the great facility and safety of their passage, which advantages are open to all vessels employed on the western coast of Scotland, western coast of England, and eastern and northern coasts of Ireland, besides affording them immediate shelter from a stormy sea, and an opportunity to be laid dry to repair any damage received. The length of the canal from sea to sea is nine miles. The present depth of water is eleven feet. The locks are ninety-six feet long, and twenty-four feet wide, in the clear.

"The present tolls are:—One penny halfpenny per ton, per mile on coals, salt, outward-bound, and all sorts of manure.—Two-pence per ton, per mile, on all other goods.—One shilling per mile, on each open boat, not exceeding seven tons burden.—One penny, per ton, per mile, on all light vessels and boats, which is discounted from the tolls on the cargo brought back.—One penny per ton on all goods landed, or put into other vessels.—Two-pence per ton on all vessels entering the harbours or basons, without unloading, or passing upon, or through the canal."

The depreciation of bank-paper, is now, by the concurrence of circumstances, forcing itself on the observation of the mercantile part of the public, in England, notwithstanding their present unwillingness to be undeceived, or to admit the disagreeable deductions, arising from uncontrovertable facts.

Gold bullion, about the period of the restriction on the bank, not to pay in specie, in 1797, was 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per ounce. It soon rose to 4*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* and is now at 4*l.* 13*s.* or an advance of 20 per cent. or in other words, gold in competition with the present circulating medium of paper is increased about one-fifth in value. This depreciation of paper becomes conspicuous, from the present state of the exchange with the continent, and is in great measure occasioned by the extravagant issue of bank-notes, owing to the restriction act, exonerating the bank from the obligation to pay their notes in specie; for if guineas were in general circulation, exchange on the Continent with Great Britain, could never rise much more above par, than a little above the cost of freight and risque, in sending guineas to the Continent, whereas a British guinea is now worth, in Hamburgh, 1*l.* 5*s.* and exchange is at the rate of 20 per cent. against London.

The issues of the Bank of England in twelve years, rose from eleven to sixteen millions, but, to hide this rise, for a short time previous to making up their annual account, to lay before parliament, it is asserted that they diminish their discounts in the proportion of 1 to 4, and immediately extend their issues, when the account is made up.

This evil is in progressive train, and may probably at no distant day, sap the highly vaunted commercial prosperity of Great Britain, and from the intimate connection between government and the bank, endanger the safety of the country. However lavish the issues of the bank of England have been, those of the bank of Ireland have more than kept pace with them, considering the comparative extent of the trade of the two countries.

There is a prejudice existing in England, against trafficking in guineas, as we have done in Ireland, by buying and selling them, but if guineas were exclusively required in one district of England, they would certainly bear a premium, and the repugnance to this trade be speedily overcome. As matters are now circumstanced, the covert trade now carried on by Jews and others, may soon probably become an open and avowed traffic there, as it has long been in this country.

The rate of exchange in Belfast has been nearly stationary during the fore part of this month, viz. 7¼ to 7½ for guineas, and 9½ for notes, latterly it is rather declining. The discount on bank notes has been about 2 per cent. In Dublin exchange has also varied very little, rating at 9¼ to 9½ per cent, but is now also looking down.

MEDICAL REPORT.

List of Diseases occurring in the practice of a Physician in Belfast, from August 20, till September 20.

Pneumonia,	1	Pleurisy
Cynanche tonsillaris,	2	Quinsey
Rheumatismus,	3	Acute rheumatism.
Arthrodepta,	2	Chronic do.
Variola,	8	Small pox.
Rubeola,	6	Measles.
Scarlatina,	2	Scarlet fever.
Hæmoptysis,	1	Spitting of blood.
Phthysis,	2	Consumption.